

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-15. (canceled)

16. (new) A method for the production of an antigen-specific immunogenic composition, comprising:

a) isolating an Antigen Presenting Cell (APC) from a subject or providing an APC already established from a cell line;

b) modifying the APC with an antigen, wherein the antigen is incorporated by a technique selected from the group consisting of pulsing the APC with soluble antigen or tumor cell lysate, transfecting the APC with nucleic acids coding for the antigen and fusing the APC with a cell;

c) treating the APC with an agent capable of removing sialic acid on the surface of the APC, wherein the agent capable of removing sialic acid on the surface of the APC is selected from the groups consisting of neuraminidase (NAS), one or more nucleic acids encoding for neuraminidase or neuraminidase-producing viruses or bacteria, and an antibody against CD43; and optionally

d) culturing the modified APC in a suitable medium.

17. (new) The method according to claim 16 comprising a further step between step a) and step b) of cultivating an APC in a suitable medium to obtain a monocyte-derived DC, macrophage or macrophage-derived DC.

18. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein the antigen is a tumor antigen.

19. (new) The method according to claim 16 comprising an additional step in which the APC is exposed to hyperthermia during step b) or between steps b) and c).

20. (new) The method according to claim 19, wherein the hyperthermia is performed at a temperature of 39 to 42 °C and for 2 to 6 hours.

21. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein the antigen is obtained from a human tumor cell line.

22. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein the APC is fused with a tumor cell.

23. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein the human tumor cell line is selected from the groups consisting of a breast cancer cell line and a prostate cancer cell line.

24. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein the antigen is a soluble tumor protein.

25. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein the antigen is prostatic soluble antigen (PSA) or cancer antigen (CA)-125.

26. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein the antigen is obtained from a cell lysate.

27. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein the cell lysate is from a breast cancer cell a prostate cancer cell.

28. (new) The method according to claim 21, wherein the APC in step a) is a monocyte.

29. (new) A method for producing a composition, comprising:

a) isolating an Antigen Presenting Cell (APC) from a subject or providing an APC already established from a cell line;

b) modifying the APC with a tumor antigen;

c) treating the APC with an agent capable of removing sialic acid on the surface of the APC, wherein the agent capable

of removing sialic acid on the surface of the APC is selected from the groups consisting of neuraminidase (NAS), one or more nucleic acids encoding for neuraminidase or neuraminidase-producing viruses or bacteria, and an antibody against CD43; and optionally

d) culturing the modified APC in a suitable medium.

30. (new) The method according to claim 29 comprising an additional step in which the APC is exposed to hyperthermia during step b) or between steps b) and c).

31. (new) The method according to claim 29, wherein the antigen is obtained from a human tumor cell line.

32. (new) The method according to claim 29, wherein the human tumor cell line is selected from the groups consisting of a breast cancer cell line and a prostate cancer cell line.

33. (new) The method according to claim 29, wherein the antigen is a soluble tumor protein.

34. (new) The method according to claim 29, wherein the antigen is prostatic soluble antigen (PSA) or cancer antigen (CA)-125.

35. (new) The method according to claim 29, wherein the antigen is from a cell lysate obtained from a breast cancer cell a prostate cancer cell.